

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

21 Simonston Blvd.
Thornhill, ON L3T 4R6
905-881-1534

Pastor

Rev. Anthony Iacobelli

Deacons: Michael Gennaro
James Shaughnessy

Celebration of The Eucharist

Saturday: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:30 am
Thursday: 12:00 noon

Eucharistic Adoration (First Friday - following the 8:30 am Mass and closing with Solemn Benediction at 12:00 noon)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
Or by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism

Second Sunday of the Month
By appointment only.

Sacrament of Marriage

By appointment only - Contact the pastor at least one year in advance.
An approved preparation course is mandatory.

Parish School

St. Michael Catholic Academy 905-889-4816

For more information on Catholic education in our community, or to reach your local school board trustee, contact the Toronto Catholic District School Board at 416-222-8282 or www.tcdsb.org or the York Catholic District School Board 905-713-1211 or www.ycdsb.ca

email: gspadmin@bellnet.ca

website: goodshepherdth.archtoronto.org

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Dec. 06, 2020

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK



Dec. 8th - Dec. 12th

Tues. 8:30 am – Francis Kwong †
Wed. 8:30 am – In Thanksgiving Chung Family
Thurs. Noon – Helena D'Souza Sp. Int.
Fri. 8:30 am – Lucia Shen †
Sat. 4:30 pm – Esdras Mendez †



READINGS FOR – December 13th

1st Reading: Isaiah 61.1-2a, 10-11
2nd Reading: Thessalon. 5.16-24
Gospel: John 1.6-8, 19-28



Christmas Mass Schedule

DECEMBER 24TH CHRISTMAS EVE HOLY OBLIGATION

04:30 P.M.
07:00 P.M.
10:00 P.M.

DECEMBER 25TH CHRISTMAS DAY

09:00 A.M.
11:00 A.M.

DECEMBER 31ST NEW YEAR'S EVE

04:30 P.M.

JANUARY 1ST NEW YEAR'S DAY

09:00 A.M.

With Christmas approaching and due to capacity restrictions, we invite you to register for **CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S MASSES ONLY**. All masses leading up to Christmas will be on a **FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS**. Families from the same household may sit together, but one ticket is required per person. We recognize these additional restrictions are challenging. So many of the faithful rely on the reception of the sacraments and our churches to find solace, peace and support during this period of pandemic. We pray that you and your loved ones remain safe and healthy. May God continue to bless you now and always!

SUPPORT YOUR PARISH

Dear Parishioners,

In order to assist in limiting the spread of the COVID-19 virus and to adhere to the regulations of the Government of Ontario during this state of emergency, all churches in the Archdiocese of Toronto have limited attendance capacity at this time.

At a time like this it can be uncomfortable to talk about giving. Our primary concern is the health and well-being of our parishioners. However, these difficult circumstances show just how important the offertory is to the life of our parishes. The reality is that our parishes rely on the support of their parishioners to operate – parish salaries, programs and ongoing operating costs (heating, water, electricity, etc.) are funded through the generosity of its parishioners. It will be a challenge for a parish to maintain operations without the usual weekly offertory collection.

If you are unable to attend Mass at this time, there are several ways you can continue to support your parish at this time:

- Drop off or mail your regular weekly offertory contribution to the parish office.
- Contribute through pre-authorized giving if your parish offers it. You can obtain a form from your parish office. Contributions are withdrawn from your bank account on the 20th of each month.
- You can contribute to the offertory via on-line banking. To do this, we need to send you your unique account number. Please e-mail us at campaign@archtoronto.org. In the body of the email provide us with your name, address, parish name and municipality. We will email you your account information which you can use to set up the Archdiocese of Toronto as a payee in your on-line banking. Your gift will be forwarded to your parish. You can make a one time or recurring gift to your offertory.

If you have any questions we'll be pleased to assist in our Development Office at the Arch. of Toronto, 416-934-3400, ext. 540.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION JUNE 2021

Given pandemic restrictions, sacramental preparation for children in Grade 2 or older, will comprise of guided use of texts and online resources to help prepare your child at home providing virtual events, and situation permitting, some in-person sessions/retreats to support preparation. First Communion will be planned for Sunday June 6th with additional dates depending on number of candidates and pandemic situation. Registration will occur by email. Please contact coordinator Nisha Fernandes (nisha.fernandes@medportal.ca) to receive the registration form that can be filled and returned via email or in the collection basket along with a copy of your child's baptism certificate. A fee of \$30.00 for books and resources will be collected (cheques or cash dropped off to the parish office in the collection basket). If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact Nisha by email or at 416-567-3626.



CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS COLLECTION FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE



The Knights of Columbus will be collecting Gift Cards (all grocery stores/ Walmart/Shopper's Drug Mart) after all Masses starting this weekend and will continue for the next several weeks.

As we begin Advent, let us keep in mind those who are less fortunate and need assistance to get through the holidays. **Please place gift cards in the gift card baskets at the back of the church.**

Humanitarian Relief – Philippines Relief Effort

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Philippines is struggling through one of the worst typhoon seasons. The Archdiocese of Toronto is now accepting humanitarian relief donations to help those affected by these devastating disasters. Those wishing to help may do so by making cheques payable to:



Name of Parish – Philippines Relief Effort – Disaster Relief

THE WORD THIS WEEK

As Christmas approaches, we all look forward to a new beginning, rebirth and a chance for renewal.




The commemoration of the Nativity of Our Lord should give us hope in what has been a very trying year for all of us. In the words of Pope Francis, ***“Saint Paul invites us to prepare for the coming of the Lord by assuming three attitudes: constant joy, persevering prayer and continual thanksgiving. Joy, prayer and gratitude are three attitudes that prepare us to live Christmas in an authentic way ... Anxieties, difficulties and sufferings permeate our lives and so many times the reality around us seems to be inhospitable and arid, like the desert in which the voice of John the Baptist resounded ... The joy of the Christian comes from faith and from the encounter with Jesus Christ, the reason for our happiness. The more we are rooted in Christ, the more we find inner serenity, even in the midst of everyday contradictions.”***

The Holy Father reminds us that our faith and our relationship with Jesus will help us to find inner peace, even during trying times. Let us all strive to be joyful, prayerful and thankful during the Christmas season and throughout the year.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, December 8th at 8:30 a.m.



 **2021 SUNDAY MISSALS** will be available for sale this weekend (\$5.00). We encourage parishioners to purchase a missal and read the Word of God ahead of Mass to savour the richness of the readings and to find healing through God's word.

FEED MY LAMBS

Casserole trays and recipes will be handed out after Mass next weekend December 12/13. We encourage all to participate during these difficult times. Your participation in feeding the hungry is greatly appreciated and we thank you.



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